

TAKAHASHI et al.  
Serial No.: 10/616,954  
Response to Office Action dated July 26, 2005

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to update the status of the now-issued parent application.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 15, 16, 18, 32 and 33 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 15, 18 and 32 have been written in self-standing independent form and these claims are believed to be allowable. Claims 13, 14 and 16 depend from claim 15; claim 19 depends from claim 18; and claims 30, 31 and 33 depend from claim 32. These dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

The remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and without acquiescence in the rejection set forth in the office action.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Shea  
Registration No. 34,725

901 North Glebe Road, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Arlington, Virginia 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100  
MJS:mjs